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1893 1893

**THE WORLD'S
RECORD-BREAKING YEAR.**

Average Circulation
400,851
Per Day.

Circulation Increase Over Next Best Year (1892).
20,352 Per Day.

Advertising Increase Over Next Best Year (1892).
5,539.

Total Number Advertisements for Year.
896,514.

Total Circulation Increase for Year.
7,048,280.

Total Circulation for Year.
146,310,965.

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AGREES TO THE ROOT PLAN.

Jake Patterson's Committee Will Adopt It at Next Meeting.

Republicans Dissatisfied with the Congressional Nominees.

It will not be necessary for the Republican State Committee to take a hand in reorganizing the party in New York City. Jake Patterson has recognized the wisdom, or rather uselessness, of opposing the Root plan of reorganization, and his Committee will adopt it without change at the next meeting of the County Committee, Jan. 10.

At first Patterson and his followers were going to fight the scheme on the ground that they were elected by the machine to continue the machine plan of organization. When this became known steps were at once taken to form a new organization, which would probably have been recognized as regular by the State Committee and Patterson would have been out in the cold altogether.

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"SOWING THE WIND."

All those good old hackneyed topics that are called naughtily by the Young Person, and "unpleasant" by the post were trotted out for duty again last night at the Empire Theatre in a new play by Sydney Grundy called "Sowing the Wind." Impressed presumably with the sensation that "The Wind" had caused, Mr. Grundy has sought to be equally candid and to display a similar insight into the weak side of human nature.

In "Sowing the Wind" he has given us a nauseating series of lectures on the equality of the sexes; he has made all his characters preach to us about the man's name being man's honor. He has given us an unnatural collection of people who talk as no earthly men and women would talk; he has invented a heroine who is as tedious as Maria Edgeworth, and who never says a solitary grith word. So immaculate is this heroine, she is reared in vice, but escaped untainted because her soul is so virtuous that you quite agree with Lord Petworth when he says to her, "Enough of heroics. Come out of the clouds." That might be said to Mr. Grundy. The play is nothing but heroics. They are substituted for plot, characters, dialogue, action. They are very nice occasionally, but they fail.

The heroine of "Sowing the Wind" is the daughter of a woman who went wrong. The girl falls in love with Ned Annesley, the adopted son of Mr. Brabazon. In due course it is discovered that the heroine is the illegitimate daughter of Mr. Brabazon, who, after having sought to prevent the marriage on the ground of the heroine's uncertain parentage, is thus brought face to face with his own early sin. That is the plot. The audience knows it all in the first act; the other three acts are devoted to lecturing about it.

Mr. Grundy has tried to be immensely clever in all his succeeding talk. He shows that lives can be wrecked by these deeds, that the children are called upon to suffer for the sins of the fathers, that every link in the chain of unhappiness caused by illicit love is irrevocable. Then he speaks of over-whelming love that carries everything before it and that cannot be bound by a little chain of gold. All the characters argue clumsily on the subject, and the play degenerates into a debating society. And the last straw that breaks the camel's back is that Mr. Grundy has not even the courage of his own convictions. He is a coward. He writes down to the level of his own mind, and makes his play as happy as possible. In spite of this, the audience is not deceived. The play is a failure. Mr. Grundy sees his son and his illegitimate daughter about to be married as the final curtain falls.

Plays that deal with the subjects selected by Mr. Grundy must have a purpose in view. They must, absolutely, every one of them, be a lesson to the young person. The purpose can be one thing only: To point a lesson on the evils of immorality. No man should talk about the sexual relations just for the sake of talking about them. Mr. Grundy has done this, however. He has calmly exposed a series of errors, and he has talked of exciting it. Then he has called a happy ending to his play. Compared with "Sowing the Wind" the Second Mrs. Tanqueray is absolutely harmless. It is a lesson, while Mr. Grundy's comedy is simply a bait held out to men and women to come and be entertained by farcical subjects, just for the entertainment's sake.

"Sowing the Wind" is not even skillful. It is absurdly crude. Pinner, dealing with a similar play would take his characters, and make them work out a story which would itself illustrate his ideas on the social question. Mr. Grundy permits his people to talk to us among themselves. They do nothing but talk, and when they have uttered a volume full of heroics, and you are beginning to think that Grundy knows it all, the play ends happily, and its very object is destroyed. There are many points of resemblance between "Sowing the Wind" and "Sweet Lavender," but the latter is a little more clever. It is a comedy, and its humor is not so unbecomingly obvious as that which is Grundy's. We know all that Grundy has told us. We know it quite as well as he does. What we wanted of him was a play illustrating what we know and what he knows. That is where his task came in. We relied upon him for illustration, and he has failed to do it. He has talked in a manner. He is a charlatan, as far removed from Pinner as J. P. Taylor is from Shakespeare.

Mr. Frohman's company did splendidly. Why all they were the costumes of the early century, when there was nothing at all in the play. The warrant this is an other piece of Grundy's arbitrary work. Henry Miller as old Brabazon was capital. He is much better as an old man than as a young one. Miss Viola Allen as the heroine has never done any work so forceful and so pleasing, and William Faversham was a straight and agreeable young hero. W. H. Miller as Ned Annesley was a capital actor. Grundy contributed another of his wonderfully clever character sketches—sketches that place Mr. Thompson far ahead of his associates. His idea of Lord Petworth was worked out with skill, and showed an amount of perception of which a Coquelin or an Irving might feel proud.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3.—The new thirty-six-inch water main connecting the new Roxborough reservoir and the Shawmont pumping station burst yesterday at Shawmont avenue and Anne street.

The water shot twenty feet into the air, and the steep hills of Shawmont avenue were soon covered with rushing torrents, carrying with them all kinds of debris and fences. A company of firemen, hearing the roaring of waters, hurried to the scene. They found a horse and wagon driven by William Peterman, of Roxborough, was upset and rolled into the river. The driver, James Davis, was killed instantly. The horse was killed, and the water continued to flow, but lost several inches before the break could be closed.

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